

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 04375 251735Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

NIC-01 /059 W

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R 251702Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0244

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 4375

FROM LODGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PO, VT

SUBJECT: VATICAN VIEWS ON PORTUGAL

1. WHEN I CALLED ON ARCHBISHOP CASAROLI, THE VATICAN'S "FONMIN", TODAY, I ASKED HIM FOR HIS VIEW OF THE SITUATION IN PORTUGAL. HE SAID THAT THE NUNCIO IN LISBON DOES NOT HAVE EASY ACCESS TO THOSE WHO ARE IN POWER BUT, NEVERTHELESS, HE FELT THE FOLLOWING COULD BE SAID:

2. THERE IS STILL HOPE THAT THE "FATAL SLIDE" WHICH WOULD MEAN THE "CZECHOSLOVAKIZATION" OF PORTUGAL CAN BE STOPPED. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT, TOMORROW OR THE NEXT DAY, THERE WILL BE A GOVERNMENT WHICH IS MORE TO THE LEFT THAN THE PRESENT ONE, BUT NOT SO FAR LEFT THAT THE COMMUNISTS CAN CONTROL IT. TO BLOCK THE DANGEROUS SLIDE UNTIL THE ELECTIONS OF APRIL 25 WOULD, HE THOUGHT, BE A MOST POSITIVE ACCOMPLISHMENT. VOLPE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONAL OPINION, RELIGIOUS LEADERS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750104-0774  
**From:** ROME  
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**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750318/aaaaapqj.tel  
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**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** greeneet  
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**To:** STATE  
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